

ceipts which a nursing text book brings, one hardly understands. It is of little use for reference, none whatever as a text book. First year nurses are not usually required to assume charge of the operating room—they are not as a rule given the nursing of laparotomies except under supervision; nor do first year nurses often find themselves occupied with the cares of obstetrical nursing. Should any first year nurse find herself launched forth on any emergent case in these departments and turn confidently to Dr. Hawes' manual to help her out of her difficulties the chances are that she would find herself "beautifully left," as vulgar parlance hath it.

The whole book is so brief—the subjects so lightly touched upon, as to be unintelligible to one who has not already some knowledge of them; and to such, absolutely useless, as it contains nothing untouched by other writers. Anatomy in twelve pages with similar flying glimpses of the physiological subjects—the organs of the body, and their functions; a passing hail to materia medica, bacteria, anæsthetics, laparotomies and obstetrics—these sum up the book which is well written and put forth in very attractive style. The question is why offer the book to nurses who would never be deluded into the belief that they had gained a knowledge of any of the subjects offered therein.

The author aims to prevent confusion in the mind of the first year nurse to whom a multitude of new subjects is often bewildering—unfortunately he has not given enough subject matter to set the mind at rest; one wants more or nothing at all.

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LATERAL CURVATURE OF THE SPINE AND ROUND SHOULDERS. By Robert W. Lovett, M.D., Associate Surgeon to the Children's Hospital, Boston; Surgeon to the Infants' Hospital; Instructor in Orthopedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School; Member of the American Orthopedic Association; Korrespondierende Mitglieder Der Deutschen Gesellschaft Für Orthopädische Chirurgie. With 154 Illustrations. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1012 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

The field of orthopedic surgery possesses peculiar interest to the nurse,—for it is here that she finds some of her best opportunities of proving herself the efficient co-worker with the surgeon as well as his indispensable assistant. Here too she finds her patient most dependent upon her for the alleviations to a tedious and often uncomfortable treatment or it may be that to the nurse is entrusted the gymnastic exercises which so often form an important feature in the case. Though

not written for nurses, it is a work which nurses will do well to have by them, especially those engaged in children's hospitals, where an early recognition of defects is important, as much preventive work may be done by correcting faulty attitudes, encouraging proper adjustment of the body, etc. Upon this account, too, to the school nurse, that personage whom we are delighted to welcome as a fixture among us, the book is to be especially recommended as the writer lays great stress upon the public school as a cause of curvature of the spine—the school fatigue, school furniture, school ennui, are mentioned as contributing causes of disease of the spine. The author gives credit to many writers whose experimental and clinical work he has drawn upon; and the text by constant reference to great authorities both at home and abroad, shows how great a field has been gone over and how much matter has been abridged and adapted to the present volume. The book is neat and dignified in binding and while imposing in appearance on a library shelf, is easily carried and can be tucked away in a travelling bag with perfect convenience.

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G. P. Putnam and Company of New York announce the publication of Miss Maxwell's book for the 15th of August, just too late for review in this issue.

The Macmillan Company of New York are to put out Miss McIsaac's book on the first of September.

